



Decision Support Briefing for SnowEx (NASA) – 8 February, 2017

Overview

A very slight chance for some lingering rain/snow showers throughout the afternoon. Otherwise, cloud bases will rise as moisture erodes under a weak transitional ridge. Partly sunny skies are expected for Thursday with lighter winds. Mid and high clouds will begin to increase as early as Friday afternoon as moisture moves in ahead of the next storm. This will result in lowering cloud decks and scattered showers of rain and snow. High snow levels will not allow the Grand Mesa to see all snow until early Saturday morning. The cold front is projected to move through the region from NW to SE Saturday, pushing through the San Juan mountains Saturday evening. Precipitation chances will decrease from north to south on Sunday morning. However, latest model guidance suggests the storm appears to stall out over AZ/NM on Sunday which would keep showers persisting over Senator Beck through Sunday evening. A "dirty" ridge looks to move into the region for the new work week - "dirty" meaning skies do not appear to clear with some lingering high and mid clouds over the higher terrain.

Local Weather Hazards for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.027&lon=-108.02>

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 43. South southwest wind around 5 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of rain after 11am. Cloudy, with a high near 47. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: Rain before 4am, then rain and snow. Low around 32. Southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%.

Saturday: Snow. The snow could be heavy at times. High near 32. Chance of precipitation is 100%.

Saturday Night: A 50 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 17.

Sunday: A chance of snow before 11am. Partly sunny, with a high near 30.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 16.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 32.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 19.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 34.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 19.

Wednesday: A chance of rain and snow. Mostly sunny, with a high near 36.

Local Weather Hazards for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.905&lon=-107.72>

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 22. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 37. West wind 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 28. Breezy, with a southwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday: A slight chance of rain and snow between 11am and 4pm, then a slight chance of snow after 4pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 38. Breezy, with a southwest wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph. Chance of precipitation is 10%.

Friday Night: Snow likely, mainly after 11pm. Widespread blowing snow after 3am. Cloudy, with a low around 26. Windy, with a southwest wind 25 to 30 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Saturday: Snow. The snow could be heavy at times. Widespread blowing snow, mainly before 3pm. High near 27. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 90%.

Saturday Night: Snow. Areas of blowing snow. Low around 11. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

Sunday: A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 22.

Sunday Night: A chance of snow before 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 12.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 27.
Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 13.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 28.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 14.
Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 30.

Aviation Forecast for Grand Junction Regional Airport

KGJT 082322
TAFGJT
TAF
KGJT 082322Z 0900/0924 28008KT P6SM SCT150
TEMPO 0900/0902 28010G20KT
FM090200 09004KT P6SM SCT110
FM090600 11007KT P6SM SCT110
FM092100 VRB03KT P6SM BKN100=

Aviation Forecast for Colorado Springs Airport

KCOS 082320Z 0900/0924 30014KT P6SM FEW100 SCT200
FM090200 04008KT P6SM FEW120 SCT200
FM090500 02008KT P6SM SCT200
FM091700 24011KT P6SM SCT100 SCT200
FM092000 28014KT P6SM SCT080 BKN200=

Aviation Forecast for Centennial Airport

KAPA 082332Z 0900/0924 01011KT P6SM FEW100 BKN220
FM090200 VRB06KT P6SM FEW120 SCT220
FM090500 19008KT P6SM FEW140 SCT220
FM091500 23010KT P6SM FEW140 SCT220
FM092000 25013G22KT P6SM FEW140 SCT220=

Discussion

Grand Mesa forecast cloud levels:

Thursday: Generally Sct 8000ft AGL persisting throughout the day with some brief periods of Bkn 8000ft AGL in the morning as a result of lingering instability.

Senator Beck forecast cloud levels:

Thursday: Sct 10000ft AGL persisting throughout the day.

Current PIREPs: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/airep/plot?type=turb@ion=SW>

Current SITREPs: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/sigmet>

Current radar:

<http://radar.weather.gov/radar.php?rid=GJX&product=NCR&overlay=11101111&loop=yes>

Current satellite: <http://www.weather.gov/satellite?image=ir#ir>

For official pilot briefings, call 1-800-WX-BRIEF

For Further Information

- Contact National Weather Service operations 24 hours a day at 970-256-9463 (unlisted)
- For specific support of emergency response incidents, request a spot forecast by contacting the NWS forecast office by phone or online.
- Online spot forecast request available at:
<http://www.weather.gov/spot/monitor/?lat=39.0293452169889&lon=-109.20392753906285&z=7>

Forecaster: Megan Stackhouse

